



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

misery, and misery in its turn fatally to crime. If the prison regime has been what it ought to be, the prisoner on his release has a desire to make a man of himself. It is just at this moment of moral convalescence, that he should be cared for and should be given employment; and if private enterprise does not do it, the state should. If after this, he refuses this aid, the social conscience is clear. When a hungry woman sells herself to have bread, society is guilty; but when a woman, who has bread, sells herself to have cake, society can follow the example of Pontius Pilate.

Criminals, by CHARLES D. SAWIN, Physician at Mass. State Prison. April, 1890. pp. 30.

This brochure is interesting as coming from the practical experience of a physician, who has been for some five years almost daily in contact with State prisoners. That all criminals are about the same and never to be trusted, whether in or out of prison, is a false conclusion. The degree of moral sense and of intellectuality should be as carefully measured by those familiar with criminals as men are measured physically by the Bertillon system, and then the criminal should be placed with those in the same approximate grade. Murderers, burglars and thieves should not be huddled together, thereby obtaining new points for their criminal career. Separating criminals into groups of the same degree of moral responsibility is preferable to the Belgian system. The hope of rendering a prison self-supporting must be given up, in order to produce the best results, *i. e.*, the stamping out of the trained criminal. Crime may be defined as the commission, by a rational being, of a certain offence or action, of which the government disapproves. It is relative; thus an inebriate instead of being put into a penal institution, may be put into a hospital. Perhaps the dealer in intoxicants will be classed as the criminal in the future. Criminals may be classified into: (1) Those having a congenital malformation or disease, either through accident or birth, or disease or vices of antecedents. (2) Criminals by circumstance, having good physical development, but insufficient will-power to withstand a propensity. And (3) criminals having a good physical development, but a constant bad environment during their lives. Although there is a greater percentage of weak-mindedness in prisons than outside, yet the tendency in major crimes, and especially where the individual is prominent, to detect evidences of mental aberration, is to be deprecated. Many prisoners become insane after entering prison; in a few instances, through remorse, or on account of the sudden change of the conditions of life, from one of pleasure to one of monotony. A little over eight tenths of one per cent. of the prison population have been transferred annually to the lunatic hospitals for treatment, for the past five years. Many more, who were harmless and quiet, could have been transferred. From a recent cursory examination, thirteen and eighteen hundredths per cent. of the prisoners in Massachusetts State Prison exhibited strong mental peculiarities; and although the major portion are very tractable during confinement under stringent rules, when permitted to mingle with the general public upon the expiration of their sentences, they fail to comprehend the social body, and break forth into some new and atrocious crime. Solitary confinement has a wonderful effect, reducing an excitable prisoner to a spirit of subjection. A certain one of this kind, when allowed the freedom of the yard was like a wild animal. He said himself that he could not bear his liberty and wanted to fight. The writer gives some interesting facts as regards Jesse Pomeroy; and closes his brochure with citations from letters written by criminals in answer to the question: "Is crime a form of insanity?" The crimi-

nals cited are decidedly of the opinion that crime is not a form of insanity; that is, five out of the six are of this opinion.

The Restoration of the Criminal, a sermon by FREDERICK H. WINES. Springfield, Illinois, 1888. pp. 22.

This sermon has more than usual value, not only for the ideas it contains, but for the facts and the confidence that may be put in them, inasmuch as the writer is the one who gathered the criminal statistics for our census of 1880. The majority of people take an optimistic or pessimistic view of crime according to their temperament, and either think that nothing can be done to stay the rising tide of crime; or else everything is done that can or ought to be. In either case they suppose that it is a matter for the government to deal with, and that private citizens have no call to waste any of their time in considering it. Many do not know how many prisons there are in our country, nor the cost of them to the community. At the time of our last census, in 1880, in all our prisons there were nearly 60,000 prisoners, and in addition 11,000 inmates of juvenile reformatories, who are virtually prisoners. Nearly ten thousand were sentenced for life, or for terms exceeding five years; they are a small fraction, and aptly compared to prisoners of war. The cost of maintaining our prisons, which is estimated at fifteen millions a year, is but a small portion of the cost of defending property and life. To this must be added another fifteen millions annually for keeping up our police departments. Then we have to maintain the ponderous and expensive system of courts. What proportion of this expense is criminal is difficult to say; but what those courts, with all their officers and employes cost us is beyond computation. Nor can the cost of the successful depredations of criminals be reckoned. We know that many individuals live by crime. Crime has its capitalists, its officers, and even legal advisers. The worst of all is, that crime is increasing in this country out of proportion to the growth of population. An examination of the reports from State prisons shows that at the present time there are over one third more convictions for high crimes in proportion to the population than there were twenty years ago.

What is the real end sought in establishing a prison? Some say: to punish crime; some, to protect society; some, to deter others from committing crime; some, to reform the criminal. There is an element of truth in each of those answers. There is a weak sentiment in society, that punishment has no place in the criminal code. We must not oppose administering justice in the spirit of retaliation in such a way as to impress others that we do not recognize the essential evil-desert of wrong-doing. At the same time, it must be admitted that the impossibility of measuring guilt in specific criminal acts, and the failure of all attempts to overcome evil with evil, have gradually changed the current of human thought, so that retaliation is not any longer the basis of an enlightened criminal code. As to protection, society has the same right as any individual in it. Fear has its legitimate use as a motive to human action. He who cannot be made to fear the consequences of evil-doing, is wrongly constituted, possibly insane, certainly void of conscience. Yet the deterrent influence of punishment upon those who experience it is greatly exaggerated. There is in human nature a propensity to self-destruction, or reckless disregard of consequences that impels men to run terrible risks to gratify passions, particularly those which are unlawful and injurious. No degree of severity will ever put an end to crime. The prison protects as long as the criminal is there; in a sense, it is a substitute for death and for banishment; but here the only sure protection is imprisonment for life; but no government will ever authorize its indiscriminate application to all grades of offenders, no matter how incorrigible they may be. There are many, even among